

NGURRAWAANA COMMUNITY — SCHOOL BUILDINGS RELOCATION

**660. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the minister representing the Minister for Education:**

In answer to my question without notice 627 asked last week, the minister stated that Ngurrawaana Remote Community School was not closed.

- (1) Is the minister aware that the Department of Education and Training has advised the school that the school is definitely closing, and has issued instructions that classroom and office items be packed ready for collection by Grace Removals Group and that the school buildings will all be removed soon after?
- (2) Is the minister aware that the community, through its community liaison officer, had asked to purchase the remaining high school building and was told that it had already been earmarked for another school?
- (3) Does the minister now accept that her department did in fact know that the community wanted to purchase those buildings?
- (4) Is the minister aware that the community has been successful in acquiring a donation of a building to be used as a community library and adult learning centre but that it will now need to be used as a classroom and that the community liaison officer will be teaching all age groups in a voluntary capacity?
- (5) Will the minister now agree to meet with representatives of Ngurrawaana Remote Community School to discuss their future?

**Hon PETER COLLIER replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. On behalf of the Minister for Education I provide the following response —

- (1) The Department of Education and Training has not said that the school is definitely closing. Items in the school buildings are being packed up for security reasons. Some resources were packed to be removed to Roebourne District High School where children from Ngurrawaana have enrolled. These items will be sent back when the children return.
- (2)-(3) I am informed that DET is not aware that the community, through its community liaison officer, has asked to purchase the remaining high school building.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) It is not at this stage practicable for me to meet with representatives of Ngurrawaana Remote Community School to discuss their future. I will ask a representative DET officer to meet with the representatives of Ngurrawaana Remote Community School to discuss this matter.